

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Phelan-McDermid Syndrome is one of many rare microdeletion syndromes which are too small to be detected by conventional techniques. It is important to accurately detect and test for Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, also known as 22q13.3. It is caused by a deletion or other structural change to the terminal end of chromosome 22 in the 22q13 region and includes the SHANK3 genes that are responsible for neurologic findings; and

WHEREAS: Phelan-McDermid Syndrome is associated with low muscle tone, generalized developmental delay, severe speech delay, and normal to advanced growth. Because it is also associated with severe expressive language delays and autism spectrum disorder, all children with these symptoms should be tested; and

WHEREAS: Microdeletions like those in Phelan-McDermid Syndrome are not detectable with ordinary cytogenetic testing therefore Chromosomal Microarray (CMA), or Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization (FISH), or Whole Exome Sequencing (WES) testing is recommended to confirm the diagnosis; and

WHEREAS: Individuals, parents, and advocacy groups can increase awareness of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome and its symptoms through scientific education opportunities and informational exchange; and

WHEREAS: It is important to raise awareness of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome and promote education that will inform citizens about this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October 22nd, 2019, as

PHELAN-MCDERMID SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 29th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2019.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


John Thurston, Secretary Of State